

April 10, 1975

That is . . . and we find . . . and I'm following up with Senator Rasmussen's situation here. As I do appraisals and go around I find some very unique situations coming about, especially in areas where the county has the board mostly from the town and not too many from the rural areas. I can recall one not too far from me and I think there's a legislator in here that will know that they've had . . . they've really had quite a round up because of the fact that they are trying to get the board, some of them from the rural area, as well as the city so that they can control what they're doing. Now the problem that I have is in your . . . you're establishing more authority with the state board. Now this I object to because we keep saying, and I know you say, you want to get this down on a local level. Yet we keep giving more authority to the state part of it. Now I think that the state has plenty authority now. The thing is we don't have penalty in this bill that amounts to anything. Is that correct?

SENATOR BEREUTER: No I don't think it is. I think the printing in the newspaper is the most severe penalty you can give.

SENATOR DUIS: Well let's put it this way, we're going to be in the courts until you won't have it, especially on the areas that are not urbanized. Now I'm wondering if you want to confine some of this to those urban areas where they really have problems. We want to start creating the problems out where we have more of a rural area. We're getting too far too fast. I don't know whether anybody else will speak on this subject, but I would presume that there are some in here . . . and very fortunately I haven't had the problem in my district. I think in someone's district in here they have had problems with their county board. I wish . . . and I don't know. Are you aware of this?

SENATOR BEREUTER: Yes I am. Senator Duis, I have worked exclusively in this state and to a greater extent than anybody else, exclusively in cities under 15,000 and exclusively in non-metropolitan counties. We, I would say, are not giving power to the state. It remains local. All the state is doing, is through an oversight function, ensuring that current law is being met by political subdivisions.

SENATOR DUIS: That's the just the point I'm getting at. You said this a while ago. How's to know what the next current law is going to be. This is my problem. We put this power in the state, that they can make them adjust to current law. I think, instead of saying current law, we should say laws starting, or as of a certain date. Because what we can do down here, or someone down here can do if they get sufficient votes, is to change that part of it. This changes the entire aspect of your bill. That's exactly the point I'm trying to get at.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Well, Senator Duis, I have a little more confidence in the Legislature, maybe, than you do. I'm willing to accept an amendment to that . . . in that respect, if you would like to offer it, and without any objections.